

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ST-01 /012 W
----- 115541

R 280800Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3177

INFO USDESPATCH AGENT NEW YORK

US DESPATCH AGENT BALTIMOE

UNCLAS TEHRAN 8392

E. O.11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, ATRN, ASUP, IR

SUBJ: SHIPPING AND SUPPLIES

FOR: CONOLLY NEA/EX FROM FERRIS

1. BUREAU AND OPR/ST HAVE RECEIVED SPATE OF CABLES FROM POST DESCRIBING LOCAL SUPPLY DIFFICULTIES, NECESSITY FOR WHICH IS REGRETED. HOWEVER, SITUATION IS WORSENING RATHER THAN BETTERING.

2. OUR OFFICIAL SUPPLIES IN LARGE PART ARE ABOARD SS STONEWALL JACKSON, RECENTLY IN STREAM AT KHORRAMSHAHR. ESTIMATED BERTHING DATE IS MID OCTOBER, BY WHICH TIME EMBASSY WILL HAVE EXHAUSTED MOST OF ITS OFFICE SUPPLIES. NO POSSIBILITY EXISTS FOR EARLY DOCKING. LOCAL AGENTS ADVISE THAT ANY OTHER ARRANGEMENT TO TAKE OFF OUR CARGO WOULD BE FINANCIALLY PROHIBITIVE.

3. MEDSPAN, INC., OPERATE THE ONLY SHIPS TO IRAN THAT MAY IMMEDIATELY UNLOAD, BUT UP TO NOW MEDSPAN/IRAN HAS BEEN UNABLE ARRANGE CLEARANCE OUR CARGOES AND FORWARDING TO TEHRAN. WE ARE NOW WORKING AND NEGOTIATING WITH THEM TO DETERMINE HOW WE CAN IMPROVE OUR LOT, ESPECIALLY SINCE WE WILL BE DEPENDENT UPON OVERWORKED OR LACKADAISICAL LOCAL AGENTS IN ALL CLEARANCE ACTIONS ONCE CONSULATE KHORRAMSHAHR CLOSES. IF MEDSPAN CANNOT ACT AS CLEARING AGENT AND OVERLAND TRUCKER, EMBASSY MAY HAVE TO UNDERTAKE ALL THESE FUNCTIONS ITSELF WHICH MEANS OUR TDY-ING OUR CUSTOMS CLEARANCE EMPLOYEE WITH EMBASSY TRUCK AND DRIVER FOR LARGE SHIPMENTS.

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4. CAN DEPARTMENT ARRANGE TO COMBINE SHIPMENTS OF ALL CIVILIAN
USG AGENCIES AT PORT OF BALTIMORE, RATHER THAN NEW YORK, AND
SHIP IN TWENTY-FOOT CONTAINERS VIA MEDSPAN? POST CAN ABSORB
ADDITIONAL COSTS SHIPPING GSA ORDERS TO BALTIMORE RATHER THAN NEW
YORK. OUR TRUCK CAPACITY, HOWEVER, IS ONE 2-1/2 TON TRUCK HAVING
BODY LENGTH, MINUS TAILGATE LIFT, OF 13 FEET. WE ARE SUGGESTING
THE USE OF OUR OWN TRUCKING BECAUSE LOCAL GENTS HAVE LET OUR
SHIPMENTS REMAIN IN CUSTOMS YARD AT PORT AS LONG AS
FIFTEEN WEEKS.

5. PRECEDING DOES NOT NEGATE TEHRANS 8204 WHICH AGREES TRIAL
AGAIN AMEXPORT VIA TURKEY.
POST HAS LITTLE FAITH SUCH ROUTING, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT CANNOT
BE USED DURING WINTER, AND WITHOUT MUCH PRIOR EXPERIENCE.

6. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY HELPFUL COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS INTER-
ESTED DEPT OFFICES MAY HAVE TO OFFER.
HELMS

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